

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 4 and 7 being independent claims.

Claims 1-3, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bick (U.K. Pat. App. No. GB 2,367,530).

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Claxton (U.S. Pat. No. 6,448,919) in view of Bick.

Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Claxton in view of Bick and further in view of Honda (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2003/0185444).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bick in view of Claxton.

Claims 1, 4 and 7-8 are amended. No new subject matter is presented.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the Examiner states that Bick discloses each and every limitation of the claim. Amended Claim 1 teaches, in part, a keypad assembly for a portable radiotelephone, the keypad assembly comprising a keypad rubber; a sensing means; a key button part functioning in one of a keypad mode and a touch screen panel mode; and *an input mode shift key shifting from one of the keypad mode and the touch screen panel mode to the other mode.*

Bick discloses a keypad assembly 7 for a portable radiotelephone 1, the keypad assembly 7 comprising a keypad rubber 17; a sensing means 19; a key button part 17 functioning in one of a keypad mode and a touch screen panel mode (FIGs 1-3, page 4 lines 18-33). To switch from one input mode (a keypad mode or a touch screen panel mode) to the other, Bick relies on how strongly or lightly a user touches each key of the keypad 7 (page 4 lines 18-33). The input mode is the keypad mode when “a user depresses a ‘hash’ key 18a” of the keypad 7 (page 4 line 21, FIG. 4), and is the touch screen panel mode when “a user lightly touches the keymat 17 without

exerting enough force to depress any of the keys 18 " of the keypad 7 (page 4 lines 30-31). Bick has no input mode shift key to shift input mode of the whole keypad from one input mode to another. By contrast, the input mode shift key of Amended Claim 1 can be shift the keypad assembly entirely from one input mode to another. Bick fails to disclose or fairly suggest the limitation of *an input mode shift key shifting from one of the keypad mode and the touch screen panel mode to the other mode* taught by Amended Claim 1.

Clearly, Amended Claim 1 structurally differs from Bick.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the above rationale for Amended Claim 1 also similarly applies to Amended Claim 7 with respect to Bick.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner states that Claxton in view of Bick renders the claim obvious. Amended Claim 4 teaches, in part, a portable radiotelephone comprising an integrated input unit having a keypad which physically integrates a touch screen panel and the touch screen panel, the integrated input unit functioning in one of a keypad mode and a touch screen panel mode; and *an input mode shift key shifting the integrated input unit from one of the keypad mode and the touch screen panel mode to the other mode*.

Claxton discloses portable radiotelephone 100 comprising an input unit having separately a keypad 118 and a touch screen panel 310 (FIGs 1 and 3). Claxton lacks both an integrated unit physically integrating a keypad and a touch screen panel, and an input mode shift key to shift the integrated input unit from one input mode to another. Claxton fails to disclose the limitation of *an input mode shift key shifting the integrated input unit from one of the keypad mode and the touch screen panel mode to the other mode* taught by Amended Claim 4. Bick also fails to so disclose, and thus fails to cure the defects of Claxton.

Clearly, Amended Claim 4 structurally differs from Claxton, Bick, or the combination thereof.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-8, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written in a cursive style.

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